

It is respectfully submitted that generic claims 82-88 are the only claims that read on Species II. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that, at least with respect to pending claims 60-110, Species II is subsumed by Species I.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

For at least the foregoing reasons, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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